

[5 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

(a) whether there is any proposal for establishing the West Coast Regional Centre of National Institute of Hydrology in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if so, whether the Competent Authority of Kerala during August, 2006 reiterated the representation for establishing a regional centre of National Institute of Hydrology in Kerala;

(d) if so, the details of action taken by Government; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) AVIP reference from Shri N.K. Premachandran, Minister of Water Resources, Government of Kerala has been received in August, 2006 requesting for establishing a regional centre of National Institute of Hydrology in Kerala. However, no formal request of Government of Kerala has been received in this regard.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Construction of irrigation project on Kalsa-Bandhura tributaries

1477. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Karnataka has decided to undertake construction of an irrigation project on Kalsa-Bandhura tributaries of Mahadai river flowing from Karnataka to Goa;

(b) whether the foundation stone for the project was laid down without the permission of the Central Government and the authorities under Central Government;

(c) whether the permission granted to the project and subsequently kept in abeyance by Government have been revoked;

(d) whether Government propose to constitute a Tribunal to resolve the dispute between States of Karnataka and Goa over the project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The State Government of Karnataka has informed that it has laid the foundation stone to start the project of Kalsa-Bhanduri Nala for diverting water from Mahadayi basin to Malprabha sub basin for meeting the drinking water needs of twin cities of Hubli-Dharwad and other areas.

(c) An in-principle clearance from water availability angle to the said project was granted by the Ministry of Water Resources in April, 2002 which was subsequently kept in abeyance by the Ministry of September, 2002 and has not been revoked.

(d) and (e) The State of Goa in July, 2002 sent a request to the Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources under the Inter-State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956 for constitution of water disputes tribunal for adjudication of the water dispute relating to Mahadayi river. In accordance with the provisions of the Section 4(1) of the said Act, the Ministry of Water Resources is of the opinion that water dispute contained in the aforesaid request cannot be settled by negotiation. The request has been examined in accordance with the provisions of the said Act and found to be not confirming to the provisions of the Act, therefore, the State of Goa has been requested to send a revised request on 21.11.2006.

Water rights on rivers to private consortia in Chhattisgarh

1478. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the water rights of four rivers in Chhattisgarh have been handed over to private consortia;

(b) if so, to whom the water rights on river have been given;

(c) the number of rivers in the country which have been handed over to private consortia; and

(d) whether there is any Constitutional approval for handing over rights on rivers to private corporations?